



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Friday, April 18, 2003

FEMALE TIGER DIES AT SENECA PARK ZOO

Ladas, the Seneca Park Zoo's 11-year-old female Amur tiger was euthanized at 10:00 am this morning after being diagnosed recently with an aggressive form of mammary cancer. She had been in the Zoo hospital since Tuesday, April 15 after Zoo attendants had reported she was acting lethargic.

"We are saddened by the loss of Ladas," said Dr. Jeff Wyatt, Seneca Park Zoo's Chief Veterinarian. "Breast cancer in similar cases has thus far been fatal in 100% of female Amur tigers ages 12-14. Based on her lack of chances for survival, her pain, and the recommendations of national Amur tiger experts, it was decided that euthanasia was the most humane option."

Ladas was born at the Potter Park Zoo in Lansing, Michigan in 1992. In November 2002, she came to the Seneca Park Zoo from the Indianapolis Zoo.

Two male Amur tigers remain at the Seneca Park Zoo, Prince and Sasha. Both of the male tigers are healthy.

The Seneca Park Zoo will soon be looking for another companion for one of the Zoo's male tigers. According to the Zoo's agreement with the Amur Tiger Species Survival Plan (SSP), the SSP will determine which tiger is most appropriate to be housed here.

The Seneca Park Zoo is located at 2222 St. Paul Street and is owned and operated by Monroe County. For information about the Zoo or membership in the Seneca Park Zoo Society, please call 467-wild (9453).

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For further information, call:

Communications and Special Events, 428-2380

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